

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 EPA-04 SCI-06 CEQ-02 DOTE-00 L-03

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TAGS: ETRD, OTRA,IT

SUBJECT: EPA INSPECTION ABROAD

REF: STATE 037722 ROME 2788

1. SUMMARY

IN FRUITFUL MEETING BETWEEN QUINN AND SIRIGNANO AND OTHER MOT OFFICIALS, ITALIAN SIDE SHOWED MORE FLEXIBILITY THAN IN PAST. MOT TO MAKE PROPOSAL FOR EPA AUTHORIZING OF CERTIFICATION TESTING IN GOI AUTOMOBILE LABORATORIES. END SUMMARY

2. MR. HERBERT QUINN, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF INTERNATIONAL TECHNOLOGY EPA AND EMBOFF MET WITH DR.AUGUST SIRIGNANO, DIRCTOR GENERAL FOR CIVIL MOTORIZATION, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND SEVERAL OTHER MOT OFFICIALS ON MARCH 4. QUINN OUTLINED FOR SIRIGNANO AND STAFF BASIC EPA RESPONSIBILITIES AND PROCEDURES FOR AUTOMOBILE CONFORMITY TESTING AND CERTIFICATION UNDER U.S. LAW. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CERTIFICATION (TESTING) PROGRAM AND ENFORCEMENT (AUDITING) PROGRAM WERE EXPLAINED. NEED FOR EPA ACCESS TO TESTING FACILITIES WAS EMPHASIZED. QUINN PRESENTED SIRIGNANO WITH FEB 27, 1974 FEDERAL REGISTER WHICH

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CONTAINED FINAL EPA REGULATION ON EMISSION TESTING.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUINN'S PRESENTATION, SIRIGNANO MADE FOLLOWING POINTS. FIRST MOT BELIEVES THAT EPA SHOULD AUTHORIZE EPA CERTIFICATION TESTING IN ITALIAN GOVERNMENT AUTOMOBILE LABORATORIES WHICH ARE LOCATED IN TURIN AND ROME. QUINN INFORMED SIRIGNANO THAT EPA HAD NOT RPT NOT YET TAKEN THE DECISION WHETHER OR NOT TO AUTHORIZE INDEPENDENT LABORATORIES ABROAD AND IN U.S. TO CONDUCT CERTIFICATING TESTING. IF APPROVED THIS PROGRAM COULD NOT RPT NOT BE INITIATED FOR AT LEAST 24 MONTHS DUE TO THE FUNDING REQUIREMENTS, TRAINING NEEDS AND DYNAMIC NATURE OF THE TEST PROCEDURE. SIRIGNANO SAID THAT MOT WOULD MAKE AN OFFICIAL PROPOSAL REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION FOR TESTING IN GOI LABORATORIES AND WOULD TRANSMIT IT TO EPA THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS. SIRIGNANO STATED THAT HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THIS PROPOSAL WOULD INCLUDE FREEDOM FOR EPA TO CONTROL AND INSPECT THESE GOI LABORATORIES AT REGULAR INTERVALS. SIRIGNANO EXTENDED INVITATION FOR EPA TECHNICAL EXPERTS TO VISIT THESE LABORATORIES IN TURIN AND ROME; IF CONVENIENT VISIT MIGHT BE ARRANGED IN CONJUNCTION WITH EPA INSPECTION OF FIAT TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MAY.

4. SIRIGNANO STRONGLY EMPHASIZED SENSITIVE POSITION OF MOT IN REGARD TO EPA INSPECTIONS OF FIAT DUE T LACK OF ITALIAN LAW PERMITTING MOT TO MAKE INSPECTIONS INSIDE AUTOMOBILE FACTORIES. MOT HAS JUST FINISHED DRAFTING PROPOSED LAW TO PERMIT MINISTRY INSPECTION OF AUTOMOBILE FACTORIES AND SIRIGNANO IS OPTIMISTIC THAT THIS BILL WILL BE ENACTED BY PARLIAMENT BY END OF 1974. IN MEANTIME, HE REQUESTED THAT EPA VISITS BE MADE IN LOW KEY MANNER AND WITHOUT EMPHASIS ON OFFICIAL ASPECT.

5. COMMENT: SIRIGNANO DISPLAYED MORE FLEXIBLE ATTITUDE THAN PREVIOUSLY ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT HE FEELS STRONGLY ABOUT MOT PROPOSAL FOR AUTHORIZATION OF EPA CERTIFICATION TESTING IN GOI LABORATORIES. VOLPE

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